

Immediate Release:

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Coweta Public Works Authority receives \$4,600,000 wastewater system loan from OWRB

OKLAHOMA CITY – The Coweta Public Works Authority (Authority) received approval for a \$4,600,000 loan Tuesday from the Oklahoma Water Resources Board (OWRB) to improve the Authority's wastewater infrastructure. Construction of upgrades and improvements to the wastewater system will be financed by the Oklahoma Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF).

The Authority will utilize these proceeds along with \$11,373,000 in other loan funds to modify and upgrade its wastewater treatment facilities. The project will include the construction of a new lift station, lagoon, lagoon partition walls to create two aeration basins, two aerobic sludge digesters, construction of one flow equalization basin, an activated sludge pump station, two secondary clarifiers, and sludge drying beds, in addition to modification of their existing disinfection basin. These improvements will allow adequate wastewater treatment for anticipated growth in the community and will help to maintain the water quality in the Arkansas River.

Joe Freeman, chief of the OWRB's Financial Assistance Division, calculated that the Authority's customers will save an estimated \$1,211,600 over the life of the 30-year loan compared to traditional financing. The CWSRF loan will be secured with a lien on the revenues of the Authority's water, sewer, and sanitation systems and a three-cent sales tax. The Coweta City Manager, Roger Kolman, stated, "We appreciate the Board's assistance with low-rate financing through the CWSRF loan program for this important wastewater treatment plant project to enhance Coweta's continued growth. Thank you for your consideration of our request."



The CWSRF program is administered by the Oklahoma Water Resources Board with partial funding from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The CWSRF program has provided approximately \$2.2 billion in water quality loans to provide communities the resources necessary to maintain and improve the infrastructure that protects our valuable water resources statewide.

Since 1983, the Oklahoma Water Resources Board has approved over \$5.9 billion in loans and grants for water and wastewater infrastructure improvements throughout Oklahoma.

"We are grateful to State Senator Kim David and Representative Kevin McDugle for their support of our financial assistance programs," said Julie Cunningham, Executive Director of the OWRB.

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